

Regular Session, 2010

SENATE BILL NO. 149

BY SENATOR THOMPSON

AGRICULTURE/FOREST DEPT. Requires the Department of Agriculture to conduct inspections of slaughtering establishments to ensure compliance with the "Federal Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act." (gov sig)

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 3:4201(12) and 4203 and to enact R.S. 3:4201(22), relative to slaughtering livestock; to provide for the definition of the "Federal Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act"; to provide relative to humane methods of slaughter; to require inspections of slaughtering establishments; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 3:4201(12) and 4203 are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 3:4201(22) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§4201. Definitions

As used in this Chapter, except as otherwise specified, the following terms shall have the meanings stated below:

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(12) The term "Federal Meat Inspection Act" means the act so entitled approved March 4, 1907, as amended by the Wholesome Meat Act (21 U.S.C. 71 et seq.), **and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto.**

\* \* \*

**(22) The term "Federal Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act of**

\* \* \*

**B. For the purpose of preventing the inhumane slaughtering of livestock, the commissioner shall cause to be made, by inspectors appointed for that purpose, an examination and inspection of the method by which cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, or other equines are slaughtered and handled in connection with slaughter in the slaughtering establishments inspected in this state. The commissioner may refuse to provide inspection to a new slaughtering establishment or may temporarily suspend inspection at a slaughtering establishment if the commissioner finds that any cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, or other equines have been slaughtered or handled in connection with slaughter by any method not in accordance with the Federal Humane**

1        **Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act (7 U.S.C. § 1901 et seq.). The refusal to**  
2        **inspect or suspension shall continue until the establishment furnishes**  
3        **assurances satisfactory to the commissioner that all slaughtering and handling**  
4        **in connection with slaughter of livestock is in accordance with such method.**

5        Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
6        signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
7        by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
8        vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
9        effective on the day following such approval.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Curry Johnson.

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#### DIGEST

Proposed law clarifies that references to the "Federal Meat Inspection Act" include any amendments to the act.

Proposed law provides that the "Federal Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act of 1978" means the act so entitled, approved October 10, 1978 (7 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.), and any amendments to the act.

Proposed law requires the commissioner to appoint inspectors to examine and inspect the method by which cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, or other equines are slaughtered and handled in the slaughtering establishments inspected in this state.

Proposed law authorizes the commissioner to refuse inspection to a new slaughtering establishment or temporarily suspend inspection at a slaughtering establishment if the commissioner finds that any cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, or other equines have been slaughtered or handled in connection with slaughter by any method not in accordance with the "Federal Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act."

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 3:4201(12) and 4203; Adds R.S. 3:4201(22))